



## Michigan Mentoring Month Recap January 2011

The 2011 Michigan Mentoring Month – an annual opportunity to highlight the importance of and need for mentoring – was a great success. In January, more than 45 recruitment, recognition, and/or celebration events were registered with Mentor Michigan. Mentor Michigan also distributed 42 Michigan Mentoring Month mini grants, valued at \$16,000 to several organizations to help them host those events.

### **Recruitment, Recognition, and/or Celebration Event Highlights**

#### **Program Activities**

Programs across the state conducted activities for their matches, potential volunteers, and the community. Celebrations were held, match activities were provided, and recruitment efforts were conducted. Below are a few profiles of 2011 Michigan Mentoring Month activities.

#### *Northern Michigan*

Communities In Schools of Mancelona – Mentor Recognition Luncheon

The Mentor Recognition Luncheon was held on January 24 to honor and thank the program's adult mentors for their dedication to the students. The event hosted 25 students and 20 adult mentors.

#### *Upper Peninsula*

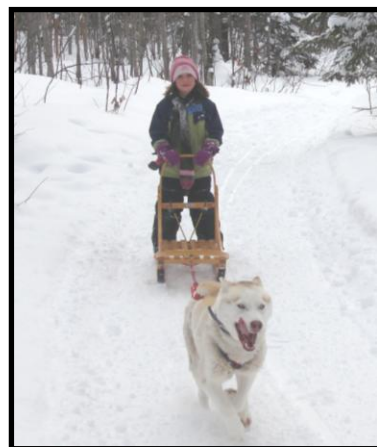
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Marquette & Alger Counties, Inc. – Sled Dog Rides

Twenty-one matches through this program participated in a unique Mentoring Month activity – sled dog rides! Matches visited the Snowy Plains Kennel in Skandia and were able to snowshoe, tour the kennels, meet the sled dogs, and go for a ride.

#### *West Michigan*

Mentor Academic Success – Appreciation & Recruiting Reception

A meal was provided and tokens of appreciation were distributed at Mentor Academic Success' event on January 26. Twenty-four people attended the event, held at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts.



#### *Mid-Michigan*

Big Brothers Big Sisters Michigan of Gratiot & Montcalm Counties – Kids Connection Activities  
To celebrate Mentoring Month, the agency held two separate Kids Connection Group Activities with the intent of introducing interested volunteers to the Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentoring experience. In total, 70 participants attended the two activities.

#### *Southeast Michigan*

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Jackson County – Mentor Appreciation Breakfast & Awards

## Ceremony

Eighty-five people attended the annual breakfast and awards ceremony and were treated to a nice meal, tokens of appreciation, and recognition of their efforts.

## Mentoring Night at The Palace



The Detroit Pistons shined a spotlight on mentoring with the first-ever “Mentoring Night at The Palace” on Saturday, January 22. As the Pistons took on the Phoenix Suns, a special emphasis was placed on mentoring with on-court recognition of mentoring programs, in-arena interviews with mentoring matches, and key messaging about how to become a mentor occurring. Programs from across the state brought their matches to the game; including those from Grand Rapids, Lansing, Flint, and Southeast Michigan.

More than 320 tickets were provided to programs thanks to 2011 Michigan Mentoring Month Mini-Grants.

## Second Annual Lloyd Carr MVP Mentoring Awards

Again this year, Lloyd Carr and Mentor Michigan recognized five youth who best exemplify the benefits of a mentoring relationship. They were honored with a special dinner and a \$1,000 scholarship (to be used to attend college or trade school after graduation) at an event on Monday, January 31 in Ann Arbor. Lloyd Carr, co-chair of the Mentor Michigan Leadership Council, personally presented the awards and congratulated each recipient.

## Special Promotions

### State of Michigan Proclamations

Governor Rick Snyder officially proclaimed the month of January as Michigan Mentoring Month and encouraged all state citizens to mentor a child, as did Michigan’s House of Representatives.

### National Mentoring Summit in Washington, D.C.

On January 25, the first-ever National Mentoring Summit was held in Washington, D.C. This unique event brought together mentoring organizations and federal and state government leaders to develop strategies that leverage mentoring to increase graduation rates among the country’s youth and position them for success. First Lady Michelle Obama delivered the keynote address and announced The Corporate Mentoring Challenge – an initiative of the Corporation for National and Community Service. Several mentoring representatives from Michigan were hand to participate.

## Media/Publicity Hits

*January 3:* Did you have a mentor? Pay it forward to a child – Niles Daily Star

<http://www.nilesstar.com/2011/01/03/doris-higgins-did-you-have-a-mentor-pay-it-forward-to-a-child/>

*January 4:* (Op-Ed) What mentor made you want to be a better person? – Dowagiac Daily News

<http://www.dowagiacnews.com/2011/01/04/what-mentor-made-you-want-to-be-a-better-person/>

*January 11:* Foundations Join In National & Michigan Mentoring Month Celebrations – CMF NewsWire

[http://www.michiganfoundations.org/s\\_cmf/doc.asp?CID=335&DID=45437](http://www.michiganfoundations.org/s_cmf/doc.asp?CID=335&DID=45437)

*January 12:* State wants more adults to mentor kids – Michigan Radio

<http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/michigan/news.newsmain/article/7/0/1748381/Education/State.wants.more.adults.to.mentor.kids>

*January 12:* Pistons Team Up with Mentor Michigan To “Pass It On” with Mentoring Night at January 22 Game – Pistons.com

[http://www.nba.com/pistons/news/mentor\\_110112.html](http://www.nba.com/pistons/news/mentor_110112.html)

*January 12:* January is National Mentoring Month – Childhelp Blog

<http://www.childhelp.org/blog/entry/january-is-national-mentoring-month/>

*January 13:* Pistons team up with Mentor Michigan – Daily Tribune

<http://www.dailytribune.com/articles/2011/01/13/news/doc4d2fc965c4ca3046910660.txt?viewmode=default>

*January 15:* Monday Big Brothers Big Sisters event to highlight positive impact of mentoring – Flint Journal

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2011/01/monday\\_big\\_brothers\\_big\\_sister.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2011/01/monday_big_brothers_big_sister.html)

*January 17:* Annual Breakfast Highlights Mentoring Program – WNEM TV 5

<http://www.wnem.com/news/26516043/detail.html>

*January 21:* Detroit Pistons team up with Mentor Michigan – Detroit Free Press

<http://www.freep.com/article/20110121/BLOG41/110121057/-1/siteindex/Detroit-Pistons-team-up-with-Mentor-Michigan->

*January 22:* (Op-Ed) Difference is made – The Mining Journal

<http://www.miningjournal.net/page/content.detail/id/558031/Difference-is-made.html?nav=5067>

*January 24:* Michigan Mentoring Month – White Lake Beacon

<http://www.whitelakebeacon.com/news/23404-michigan-mentoring-month>

*January 24:* Mentoring event is set for Jan. 28 in Charlotte – Charlotte Shopping Guide

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20110124/CHAR01/101230311/1001/NEWS>

*January 25:* Want to become a mentor? – WZZM TV 13

[http://www.wzzm13.com/news/news\\_story.aspx?storyid=150664&catid=14](http://www.wzzm13.com/news/news_story.aspx?storyid=150664&catid=14)

*January 25:* (Op-Ed) Your Opinions: Make a difference, become a mentor – Battle Creek Enquirer

<http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20110125/OPINION03/101250303>

*January 27:* Sosnick will be honored for commitment to mentoring – The Oakland Press

[http://www.theoaklandpress.com/articles/2010/01/27/news/local\\_news/doc4b601b3cd68be872870513.txt](http://www.theoaklandpress.com/articles/2010/01/27/news/local_news/doc4b601b3cd68be872870513.txt)